

much.) Wherefore, now that I may judge of thee mainly by myself, and expect expectations regarding thee thereby, I will say that were I the Duke Wellington the image would remove. It is a very beautiful conceit in thee, doubtless, to assume the fiction that thou art dead; but would it not be still more beautiful in thee to own the fact that thou art alive? To own it and to manifest it? Beside a noble self-denial have I not here set a nobler? Posterity would say of thee, And the Duke Wellington did very beautifully say, Lo, I am dead. Until he belthought himself again; (taking counsel of one Dr. Verditius;) when he did much more beautifully say, I am alive. I am alive, said the Duke Wellington, and did manifest his vitality in this, to wit, that the image did remove.

Of what to do with him. But I must defer for a week. Else I should be forced too much into hastiness and brevity. And it is but too true that after we have got him down we may very possibly (and very much after undoubted precedent also) do very badly with him. We have perched statues two hundred English feet up in the air before this.

In fact, I had almost said don't take him down at all, till you decide carefully and well what to do with him. ROBERT KERR.

THOROUGHFARES IN THE CITY.

SIR,—In no city in the world are improvements so necessary as in London. The great and increasing traffic in this vast metropolis demands extensive alterations in the general line of streets. It is therefore with much pleasure that I view the operations (now nearly completed) in forming the new street from Holborn to Oxford-street, known as New Oxford-street; and I trust that the Commissioners for Metropolitan Improvements will not stop their proceedings there, but as quickly as possible remove that abominable nuisance—Middle-row, Holborn, which now obstructs one of the principal thoroughfares, and renders it extremely difficult for those who are driving vehicles to pass without endangering the lives of the public. It is also to be hoped, that the committee will not allow to stand that block of houses in the same line of road, at the bottom of Holborn-hill, at the corner of the new street in continuation of Farringdon-street, which now contracts Holborn-hill, elsewhere a considerable width, to something like 30 feet.

I am aware that the pulling down of houses is an expensive operation; but when we consider the benefit resulting from having wide and commodious roadways in this commercial city, no expense ought to stay the progress of such improvements. Instead of spending money in places where there is little traffic, let them consider the best mode of increasing the convenience of the principal thoroughfares, and thereby gain the approval of the public; and then let them look into the back streets, and increase the comfort of the inhabitants by doing that which is necessary for the free circulation of air.

Having said thus much, let us glance at Cheapside. Here is the channel through which vehicles of all kinds pass from Fleet-street, Holborn, and St. Martin's-le-Grand, together with those from the opposite direction, namely, Whitechapel, King William-street, and the Borough. The scene which presents itself to an observing eye is astonishing, and the inquiry suggests itself to the mind—could not this great thoroughfare be relieved of some of its traffic? This could be done; by increasing the width of Walling-street, Budge-row, and Cannon-street. A commodious roadway would be formed from St. Paul's Churchyard to London-bridge, in the vicinity of King William's Statue, and crossing over into Eastcheap, and increasing the width of Tower-street and its neighbourhood. A complete line of traffic would then be opened to the Tower, St. Catherine's and the London Docks, &c., and thus relieve Cheapside.—I am, Sir, &c.,

A CITIZEN.

DECORATION IN THE ADELPHI.—Decorators, under the direction of Mr. Hay, of Edinburgh, well known by his works on colour, are at work in the large room of the Society of Arts. The entrance-hall is to have a tessellated pavement.

FOREIGN ARCHITECTURAL AND COL-LATERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Munich.—The painters of this capital are perfectly right in not depending entirely on the exertions of the brush—and if time and occasion presents itself, to multiply their works by either engravings or lithographs. Even Sennorr, although now fully engaged at the completing of his Niebelungen frescoes in the palace, has published several of his works in copper and wood-engraving or on stone, and often has put hand to work himself. The historical painter Schubert also has published some of his own works. We have also to allude to his splendid edition of Raphael's frescoes of Amor and Psyche, in the Farnesina at Rome, which have just appeared in twenty-five copper plates, after his designs, made on the spot with great care and accuracy. Mr. Gustaph König is engaged in the engraving of his celebrated compositions of a Luther gallery, and Mr. Strahuber, since his renowned marginal drawings to the Luther songs, has proceeded in similar endeavours. Henry Herz is engraving Kaulbach's Destruction of Jerusalem—and all these productions are ably printed by Mr. Wieck, whose presses vie with any other in Europe.—Steel engraving, especially in the department of architecture and landscape, is mostly undertaken by Mr. J. G. Popel, a pupil of the London school of engravers in that especial branch.—The galvanographic establishment of L. Schöninger is in full activity, and although his procedure of obtaining impressions similar to aqua-tinta style seems complicated, favourable results seem unquestionable.—Lithography progresses vigorously here—its very birthplace; witness the splendid re-productions of the master-pieces of the Pinakothek, and the Schleissheim collection, as well as that of Prince Leuchtenberg. Many plates, also, for Professor Haustengel's Dresden Gallery work, are here executed.

Laying of the Foundation of the New Pinakothek, at Munich.—This ceremony has been performed by his Majesty the King, and the expenses of the building are to be defrayed out of the private purse of the monarch. One of the stipulations for this new establishment is, that no picture older than the present century is to be received. The king spoke on this occasion these memorable words:—"It is for pictures of this and future centuries that the new Pinakothek is destined. The higher art of pictures had faded away; then it rose again in the 19th century, through the exertions of Germans—like a Phoenix soaring above its ashes. Art must not be considered as a luxury (it) ought to manifest itself everywhere; and only if it permeates whole life, it will be what it ought. My great artists are to me joy and pride. The deeds of the statesman will be long forgotten, when those of the distinguished artist will rejoice and elate man." This fine speech was received with loud and repeated acclamations by the vast multitude. The persons invited by his Majesty as witnesses of this solemn act, were, the architect of the building, Professor A. Vuit, the director of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, superior buildings councillor Mr. de Gärtner, and a whole galaxy of the painters and artists of Munich. The following objects were deposited by the king in the foundation,—the lithographed plan of the building; the deed of the foundation, burnt in china, &c.

Archæological Regulations in Austria.—This branch of research has hitherto ranged amongst the category of treasure-seeking, and Government had to receive one-third of all the art-value in coins, metal works, &c., found under the ground. This privilege is now relinquished, and H. M. the Emperor has issued an order for the preservation and publication of antiquarian relics in the interest of science and art.

Exhibition and Prize-awarding for Industrial Drawings in Vienna (Second notice).—It appears now that this scheme, started by the Industrial Society of the Austrian capital, has proved most beneficial—as it had been undertaken in the liberal spirit, that foreign samples were also admitted for competition. Thus, amongst the 300 specimens exhibited, several were by Paris, Mulhausen, and other foreign artisans and artists. A new feature also is, that such specimens becoming extensively

known, were sold at high prices to manufacturers and other trade-masters.

Byzantine Frescos in Constantinople.—By the late repairs and restorations of the Mosque Fetih, in the quarters of Dur Auan, the inner part of the Maksud, viz., that part of the edifice where the Emperor performs his prayers, has become for the first time accessible to European eyes. The cupola, which spreads over it, is covered with a very well preserved fresco in gold and rich colours, representing the Saviour, and in the surrounding compartments the figures of twelve persons, clad in wide garments, mostly of dark colours. Whether they represent the Apostles or Prophets has not yet been ascertained, as the names are painted in a very ancient character, difficult to be deciphered.

"Turning out" the Slaughter-houses in Vienna.—It was no less a personage than the Lord Mayor (*Bürgermeister*) of that city, who undertook, last spring, a journey to Paris, for the sake of becoming thoroughly acquainted with the *structure and rationale* of the *abattoirs*, established there during the French Revolution. On his lordship's return, it was decided, that such should be also established in the environs of Vienna. The master butchers of the Austrian capital, however (kind, charitable souls!), thought that such an abating of a public nuisance would possibly encroach on their private views and income. They formed themselves into a committee, to protest in the highest quarters against the removal of filth and miasma from the precincts of the very city. They were, however, repulsed quite *sans cérémonie*, and told that private interest can never be made paramount to public good.—[We should be glad to hear of a similar message to the London corporation.]

The House of Science.—*Dar ul Funun*, at Constantinople—College of Medicine.—Their Excellencies, Pashas Reschid and Rifait, use every exertion for the above establishment, for which the plans have been approved by the Emperor. It will stand near Agia Sofia, on an area of 8,000 square yards, and consist of a main building of three stories, with ten spacious lecture-halls, room for 400 boarding students, and 800 attending the lectures and other studies in the college.

Opening of the First Railway in the Kingdom of Poland.—The line from Warsaw to Petrikau has been opened for public traffic in the presence of the viceroy, Prince Paskewitch. The distance of 19½ Polish miles (109 kilometres), has been performed in four hours, comprising some delays occasioned by the festival occasion. This line will be of great importance to Poland, as it will bring Warsaw within a few miles of the Prussian Silesia, which is already traversed by the Breslau-Berlin line, which, again, passes close to the Austrian frontier.

Architectural Pretenders.—Structural propensities are now so universally prevailing throughout Europe, that whenever real talent is not at hand, it will be supplanted by any sort of pretenders and cobblers. This has been, of late, exhibited in the Danube-principalities, where a set of French dancing and fencing masters have played the part of architects and engineers. At Bucharest they have erected buildings, which may be considered libels on all principles of art and beauty; as for instance the Hotel Otellishan, which bears the shape of a beaver's cave—or that of the Secretary of State, Mr. Stirbei, which resembles the well turned-out bridecake of some refined confectioner. Better, however, are some buildings previously erected by German architects.

"Alternatives."—The strength, and buoyancy, and fire of youth, must be either used—both mentally, but still more bodily; or they will misuse and corrupt themselves, according to that frightful axiom *bona corrupta, pessima*. There is, therefore, no alternative for present mankind—either consummation of putrescence or regeneration. The ancients, without dilating much on these subjects, seem to have known them by intuition. Why, their very religious rites were open-aired, peripatetic, gymnastic, athletic! There is no use any longer in running a muck at the very organization of human nature! The alternative, in fine, is this—we must have more public parks and walks, play-grounds, swimming-schools, gymnastic and athletic games; or we must

* Via. of a nation. The original is *supplery* (Germans).

* The worst—the good spoiled.